Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: When you found that there is no free ventilation why did you not instal some electric punkhas?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: Electric Pankhas are not available now.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: What is the remedy that the Government propose to give them for enough ventilation?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: Extend the eastern portion and make it a little more ventilated. That is the only possible course.

ARTICLES OF FOOD STUFFS SUPPLIED FROM RETAIL SHOPS AND FAIR PRICE SHOPS

17. **Mr. A. B. Salem** *(Mattancheri)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the articles of food stuffs supplied by Government for sale in the retail shops;

(*b*) the articles of food stuffs supplied by Government for sale in the Fair Price shops;

(*c*) if any differentiation is made between the two shops regarding the supply of articles, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons therefor?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*:

(*a*) Rice, paddy, wheat, bajra, jowar, barley, maize, ragi, gramdhall, gramflour, toordhall, peas, blackgram, moong, moongdhall, maida-flour, atta, wheat-flour, sooji (rava), maizemeal, jaggery, kersone oil, horsegram, tapioca and potato.

(*b*) All the commodities specified in answer to (*a*) and also sugar.

(*c*) Sugar is not sold in private retail shops. The quota of sugar alloted to us is very limited. The distribution has therefore to be closely supervised, so as not to leave any chance of this commodity being misused. It is, therefore not sold to the retail shops.

Note.—Sugar is sold through Fair Price Shops and in some of the places where there are no such shops through the officers of the department.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Are not all these articles rationed?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Not all.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Is not sugar one of the rationed articles?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Yes.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Are not the rationed articles to be sold only according to the rations fixed through fair price shops or retail shops?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Yes.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Then what is the difficulty to place sugar also for sale in the retail shops? The shop keepers cannot issue more than the rationed quantity.

Mr. President: They can.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: That is in the black market. Then their licences can be cancelled by us.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Sugar is not a commodity which is consumed by all. So if it is issued to the retail shops, by collusion we find that large quantities will go to the black market. The man who does not want it sells it in the black market.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: They can only issue according to the ration.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Those who do not want sugar collude with the shop keepers and sell it.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: That can be done even in your fair price shops.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: We have got greater control over our shops.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: What is the kind of control exercised on the retail shops that sell other rationed articles?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Disciplinary control.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: What I submit is.....

Mr. President: This is not the time for submitting anything.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: My question is why not sell sugar in the retail shops when more important articles as rice are sold there?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Rice is a commodity required by all and there will be only very few who do not purchase rice and if any one does not get rice, he will complain immediately and it will be easy to check vagaries. In the case of sugar a comparatively large number of people may collude with the shop keepers and sell it in black market.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: I understand the fear. But are the Government aware that it will be more convenient for people to go to a ration shop and purchase sugar also. It is the convenience of the public that has to be taken into consideration. Collusion can take place

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everywhere, even in the depots collusions have taken place. That you must detect and punish. But ration.....

Mr. President: Order, order. The Honb'le Member is not asking for information.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I am asking what is the difficulty.

Mr. P. P. Devassy *(Trichur-South):* What is the nature of the additional control over the fair price shops?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Fair price shops are manned by a better class of persons, having better education; they are officers under the department and we havs some discipline and control. With regard to the retailer for every small mistake we cannot punish them. But in the case of the fair price shops we can remove them and appoint others. So there is the fear.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Is not the cancellation of the licence a sufficient punishment?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* There may be difficulty of getting retailers if we go on cancelling licences for small mistakes.

Mr. P. P. Devassy *(Trichur-South):* What is the pay of the managers of the Fair Price Shops?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Rs. 25.

Mr. P. P. Devassy *(Trichur-South):* Who are the officers mentioned in answer to sub-division (c)?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Field Officers.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി : പഞ്ചസാര ലീസ്റ്റനുസരിച്ചുള്ളവക്ക് മാത്രമല്ലെ കൊടുക്കുകയുള്ളു?

റാവുസാഹിബ്ബ് എം. എം. പോൾ : അല്ല, എല്ലാപേക്കും കൊടുക്കും.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി : ഇപ്പോൾ കൊടുത്തുവരുന്ന ലീസ്റ്റനുസരിച്ചു പഞ്ചസാരകൊടുക്കാൻ മാത്രം ഫെയർപ്രൈസ് ഷോപ്പുകാരേയും ലൈസൻസ്സുകാരേയും എല്പിക്കാൻ എന്താണ് വിരോധം?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* There is the difficulty because some don't want it. We have to make some distinction.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* If some do not want sugar, how can you find it out.

Rao Sahib. M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* By enquiry we know.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are there cases where sugar has not been taken by people?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes. There are many cases.

Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan *(Mattancheri):* Is it the position of the Government that the retail shop keepers are worse than officers who draw Rs. 25?

Rao Sahib M M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I was only.....

Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan *(Mattancheri):* Are they uneducated brutes?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I did not say so.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി : ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ റേഷൻ അനുസരിച്ചു ഫെയർപ്രൈസ് ഷോപ്പുകാരേയും ലൈസൻസ്സുഷാപ്പുകാരേയും എല്പിക്കുവാൻ വല്ല തടസ്സവുമുണ്ടോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I only said that there will be greater control.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി കെ. കുട്ടി : ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ റേഷൻസമ്പ്രദായമനുസരിച്ചു എല്ലാ ഫെയർപ്രൈസ് ഷോപ്പുകാരും ലൈസൻസ്സു ഷാപ്പുകാരും വില്ക്കാൻ അനുവാദം കൊടുക്കുന്നതു?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* According to the system suggested there will be greater chances for the article to go into the black market.

Mr. N. Govinda Pai *(Nominated):* Can the Government entrust this, to retailers who m they think they can rely upon?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Government do not think that the existing system should be changed.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are the Government aware that there are two shops run by very respectable and monied people far above any possibility of corruption in Mattancheri?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It will be very difficult to make distinctions. If we trust one shop keeper, then there will be the question why not trust the other also.

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Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* In the note below it is stated that in places where there are no fair price shops it is distributed through officers of the department. Cannot this thing be done in all the villages through licensed shops. Can you not abolish all the fair price shops and appoint a few men whose business will be to distribute sugar to all the licensed shops.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* We will have to appoint more officers.

Mr. Poptalal Goverdhan Lalan *(Mattancheri):* May I know in what respect are the officers consierdered more respectable.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I have already explained it.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. നാരായണമേനോൻ: റേഷൻകാർഡുകൾ റിട്ടെയിൽ ഷാപ്പുകളിൽനിന്നു ഫേർപ്രൈസ് ഷാപ്പുകളിലേക്കു മാറി കിട്ടുവാൻ അളുകൾ അപേക്ഷിക്കാറില്ലെ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Some times applications are received for transferring cards attached to retail shops to fair price shops.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Are not applications the other way also received by the Department?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I am not sure. I want notice.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. നാരായണമേനോൻ: ഫേർപ്രൈസ് ഷാപ്പു നടത്തുന്ന ആളുകൾ മറ്റുള്ളവരെക്കാൾ ഭേദമാണെന്നു പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്കു തോന്നുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്നുള്ളതിനെക്കുറിച്ചു അന്വേഷണം നടത്തീട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It is a matter of impression. I have not made any specific enquiry.

മിസ്റ്റർ പോപ്പട്ടലാൽ ഗോവർദ്ധനലാലൻ: റീട്ടയിൽ ഷാപ്പുകളിലും ഫെയർപ്രൈസ് ഷോപ്പുകളിലും വല്ല മുന്തിരക്കാരും ഉണ്ടോ എന്നുള്ളതിനെകുറിച്ചു അന്വേഷണം നടത്തീട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It is after a general enquiry that licenses are given. But sometimes it is subsequently proved that our impressions are not correct.

മിസ്റ്റർ പോപ്പട്ടലാൽ ഗോവർദ്ധനലാലൻ. ഇതു അവരുടെ സ്വന്തംപണംകൊണ്ടു നടത്തിവരുന്നതൊ അതോ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടുശമ്പളം വാങ്ങി അവർ നടത്തിവരുന്നതൊ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Of course it is their own money. We do not advance anything.

Mr. Thomas Karikassery *(Narakkal):* Cannot the fair price shops be abolished and more field officers appointed for checking purposes.

Mr. Presidet: That is a suggestion and not a request for information.

മിസ്റ്റർ പോപ്പട്ടലാൽ ഗോവർദ്ധനലാലൻ: മട്ടാഞ്ചേരി ഷുഗർ ഡിപ്പോവിൽ ചാക്കിൽ മണ്ണുനിറച്ചിരുന്നതു ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിനറിയാമൊ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes. That is a consignment which we received from Karachi and not filled up here.

Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan *(Mattancheri).* Is sugar brought from Karachi?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It was imported by Parry and Company.

Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan *(Mattancheri):* Is there not an officer to inspect all these things? Was this case reported?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* We conduct surprise visits and random checks.

Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan *(Mattancheri):* How did it escape notice?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* There will be thousands of bags and most of these bags are checked. Sometimes one bag may escape his notice. But it will come to notice later on when they issue the bag.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Did the Government make good the loss on account of this sand bag.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Of course we are trying to recover compensation.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Have not complaints been received from persons regarding the delay in supply, etc., from these fair price shops or depots.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* No.

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മിസ്റ്റർ പോപ്പട്ടലാൽ ഗോവർദ്ധനലാലൻ: ഷുഗർ എടുത്തിട്ട് അതിൽ മണ്ണെണ്ണ നിറയ്ക്കുവാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നുണ്ടോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Of course it is possible.

മിസ്റ്റർ പോപ്പട്ടലാൽ ഗോവർദ്ധനലാലൻ: അതു എങ്ങിനെയാണെന്നു അന്വേഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Rao Sahibe M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: No. We knew how it came.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Are you prepared to revise the scheme or do you intend to stick to your own Scheme?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Which scheme?

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: The scheme of putting sugar for sale in all retail shops.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: At present we do not think it necessary to revise it.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി കെ. കുട്ടി: ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ distribution അനുസരിച്ചു വല്ലാർപാടം മുതലായ ഐലണ്ടുകളിൽ ഉള്ളവർക്കു എങ്ങിനെയാണു ഷുഗർ കൊടുത്തുവരുന്നതു്. അവിടെയുള്ളവർക്കു റേഷൻ അനുസരിച്ചു പഞ്ചസാര കിട്ടുന്നതിനു അവിടെതന്നെ വില്പനചെയ്യുന്നതിനുള്ള വല്ല സൌകര്യവും ചെയ്യുവാൻ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനു സാധിക്കുമോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Every convenience can be given to see that the ration fixed reaches everybody in the island.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി: ഇപ്പോൾ ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതിനെ നന്ദി പറയുന്നു. വില്ലേജുകളിലുള്ളവർക്കു പഞ്ചസാര കിട്ടുന്നില്ല. ഇന്നു ഗവൺമെണ്ടു നിശ്ചയിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന റേഷൻ അനുസരിച്ചു വില്ലേജുകളിലുള്ളവർക്കു പഞ്ചസാര കിട്ടുവാൻ വേണ്ട ഏർപ്പാടുചെയ്യുന്നതിനു ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനു ഭയമുണ്ടാകുമോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: I have already explained the difficulty.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I know how the Department dealt with this precious commodity received from Karachi?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: That was not issued and we are trying to recover compensation.

മിസ്റ്റർ പോപ്പറവലാൽ ഗോവർദ്ധനലാലൻ: ഇപ്പോൾ വരുന്ന പഞ്ചസാരയുടെ നിറമെന്താണെന്നും ജാതി എന്താണെന്നും ഗവൺമെണ്ടു അന്വേഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: We cannot choose the colour and variety of the sugar. We have to take what we get.

മിസ്റ്റർ പോപ്പറവലാൽ ഗോവർദ്ധനലാലൻ: ഇൻഡ്യാഗവൺമെണ്ടു പഞ്ചസാരയുടെ കോട്ട നമുക്കു തരുന്നതു മറവുള്ള സ്റ്റോറുകളിൽ കൊടുക്കുന്ന നിലയിലാണോ, അതോ വിലയിൽ വല്ല വ്യത്യാസവുമുണ്ടോ, ആദായം വല്ലതുമുണ്ടോ എന്നു അറിഞ്ഞാൽ കൊള്ളാം?

റാവുസാഹിബ് എം. എം. പോൾ: വ്യത്യാസം ഇല്ലെന്നാണു തോന്നുന്നതു്. I want notice.

മിസ്റ്റർ പോപ്പറവലാൽ ഗോവർദ്ധനലാലൻ: സുപ്പീരിയർ കോളിറ്റി കിട്ടുവാനായിട്ടു കടപ്പുറത്തെ മണ്ണില്ലാതെ പഞ്ചസാരതന്നെ കിട്ടുവാനായിട്ടു വല്ല ഏർപ്പാടും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: We have asked for the best variety possible.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: May I know whether there is any officer equal to the Grain Purchasing Officer for the purchase of sugar.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: No.

Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan *(Mattancheri)*: അതു് പഞ്ചസാരതന്നെയാണെന്നു് ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനു ബോദ്ധ്യമാണോ? Is it refined suguar?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: It is the sugar that we used to get ordinarily.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Is there any difficulty to depute an officer to see what kind of sugar is despatched to us?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Diretor of Food Supplies)*: It is not found necessary. If found necessary we can do so.

മിസ്റ്റർ പോപ്പറവലാൽ ഗോവർദ്ധനലാലൻ: പഞ്ചസാരയുടെ വില തന്നെയാണോ പഞ്ചസാരയല്ലാത്തതിനും കൊടുത്തുവരുന്നതു്?

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Khan Sahib Ismail Haji Essa Sait *(Mattancheri)*: May I know whether the Government have made any claim on the shippers for this "sand bag sugar".

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: I have answered that question..

Khan Sahib Ismail Hajee Essa Sait *(Mattancheri)*: What claim have you made on the shippers?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: There are no shippers in this case. It was sent by Parry & Co. It is from the Indian shore itself.

മിസ്റ്റർ പോപ്പറ്റലാൽ ഗോവർദ്ധനലാലൻ : ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടിൽനിന്നു പഞ്ചസാര വില്പന തുടങ്ങുന്നതിനുമുമ്പു കൊച്ചി രാജ്യത്തു പഞ്ചസാര വില്പന നടത്തിയിരുന്നില്ലെ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Yes

മിസ്റ്റർ പോപ്പറ്റലാൽ ഗോവർദ്ധനലാലൻ : അതുമിപ്പോൾ ഒന്നുതന്നെയാണോ, ആദ്യത്തേയും ഇപ്പോഴത്തേയും മറ്റപടി ഒന്നുതന്നെയാണെന്നാണോ ഞങ്ങൾ കണക്കാക്കേണ്ടതു"?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: That is what we think.

STRAW AND COCOANUT LEAVES—MAXIMUM PRICES FOR

18. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the price of straw and cocoanut leaves (മെടഞ്ഞ ഓല) as fixed by orders of Government;

(*b*) whether the said commodities are available for purchase anywhere in the State at the rates;

(*c*) if answer to (*b*) is in the negative what they propose to do to make the commodities available at the rates?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*:

(*a*) (*i*) Straw: Rs. 50 for every 1,000 sheaves weighing not leas than 2,000 rauthals (Dutch lbs.).

(*ii*) Cocoanut palm leaves. Re. 0—10—0 for every 30 finished halves or 15 "madals".

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) In view of answer to (*b*) no answer necessary.

മിസ്റ്റർ പോപ്പറ്റലാൽ ഗോവർദ്ധനലാലൻ : ഓലയ്ക്കു ഏറ്റം അണയും വൈക്കോലിനു ഈ ഉറപ്പികയും വിലനിശ്ചയിക്കുകയുണ്ടായി" നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തിൽ ഓലയും വൈക്കോലും എത്ര മാത്രം ഉണ്ടെന്നും ആവശ്യം എത്ര ഉണ്ടെന്നും കണക്കെടുത്തിട്ടാണോ എന്നറിഞ്ഞാൽ കൊള്ളാമായിരുന്നു.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: No such survey has been conducted. We have only an approximate idea.

Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan *(Mattancheri)*: Have the Government got an idea of the production?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: We have got a rough idea only; no actual survey has been conducted.

Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan *(Mattancheri)*: Have the Government any idea of the cost of production of these cadjan leaves and transporting charges to the different distributing centres?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Yes, the cost of production and the cost of transport have been taken into consideration and it was thought that the rates fixed are fair.

Mr. P. P. Devassy *(Trichur-South)*: The rate is fiexd at 10 as. for all places in Cochin State? How can that be so? The cost of transport to different places vary.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: After all there is not much difference in the prevailing rates and the maximum rates possible were fixed so that it may be possible for people to transport them from the surplus areas to the deficit areas.

Mr. P. P. Devassy *(Trichur-South)*: From where are cadjan palm leaves obtained at Trichur? From where are they got down?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: From the coastal areas, on the western side, that is to say, from Triprayar, Anthikad and other places.

Mr. P. P. Devassy *(Trichur-South)*: What will be the cost of transport?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: I do not know the exact cost of transport, but all factors were taken into consideration and it was found that it will be a fair rate.

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